Individual decentralized AC system: essential for CN2050 New refrigerant development

The Japan Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Industries Association Masato Yosomiya



RAA The Japan Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Industry Association

- 1. Individual decentralized AC system: essential for CN2050
- 2. New refrigerant development
- 3. Summary

1. Individual decentralized AC system: essential for CN2050 Heat pump/refrigeration cycle technology used in various fields

HVAC/R industry will contribute to the sustainable improvement of people's lives and wellfare through cooling / heating / freezing / hot water supply using the refrigeration cycle.



All images are for illustration purpose only.

To achieve "carbon neutrality" with sustainability, cooling and heating are essential

- JRAIA will continue to work together with the government and academia toward the realization of a carbon neutral society while considering S+3Es (safety, environmental performance, energy conservation, and economic efficiency).

The Japan Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Industry Association

1. Individual decentralized AC system: essential for CN2050 Various heat pump products



1. Individual decentralized AC system: essential for CN2050 Individual decentralized AC system and central AC system

Both Individual decentralized AC systems and central AC systems have their distinct advantages. However, for small and medium-sized buildings, the individual decentralized air conditioning system is superior in terms of economy, energy saving, quick response, and is chosen as essential system.



1. Individual decentralized AC system: essential for CN2050

Advantage of direct expansion individual AC system

ZEB(Zero Energy Building)is essential to achieve carbon neutrality.
(1) [Design Stage] Japanese government has shown the roadmap plan enhance ZEB in the buildings to enhance 4 categories.
(1) [ZEB] (net-zero), (2) Nearly ZEB(75% or more), (3) ZEB Ready(50% or more)), (4) ZEB Oriented in large buildings (10,000m² or more), Energy saving of 30% or more and unappreciated technology as a technically difficult area
(2) [Operational Stage] Combining the rapid response and various sensors in direct expansion air conditioning enables detailed energy-saving control and comfortable control, and further energy-saving can be expected at the operational stage.



2. New refrigerant development (for direct expansion ACs) High-performance/low-GWP refrigerant required for direct expansion ACs

HFO-based low GWP refrigerants are the only candidate for medium- to large split ACs. HFO refrigerants are subject to the European PFAS proposal, careful consideration is required so as not to lose an effective means of CO2 reduction.

		R290	CO2	R32, R454B, etc.	New HFO
Small split AC (6kW≦)	Safety	△ (A3)	Δ (high pressure)	O(A2L)	O(A2L)
	GWP	O (<10)	O (<10)	△(<750)	O (1~150)
	Performance/Economics	0	x (low performance)	0	Δ~Ο
	challenges	Safety Measure	impractical	Medium GWP	PFAS, Stability, Performance
Medium/Large split	Safety	× (Flammability)	\triangle (high pressure)	0	O(A2L)
AC(<6kW)	GWP	O (<10) No natural	O (<10)	∆(<750)	O (1~150)
	Performance/Economics	△ refrigerant candidate	x (low performance)	0	Δ~0
	challenges	impractical	impractical	Medium GWP	PFAS, Stability, Performance
VRF	Safety	× (Flammability)	\triangle (high pressure)	0	O(A2L)
	GWP	O (<10)	O (<10)	∆(<750)	O (1~150)
	Performance/Economics	×	x (low performance)	0	Δ~Ο
	challenges	impractical	impractical	Medium GWP	PFAS, Stability, Performance

The Japan Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Industry Association

© 2023 JRAIA The Japan Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Industry Association. All Rights Reserved.

2. New refrigerant development (for direct expansion ACs) NEDO project

NEDO Development of next-generation refrigerant refrigeration air conditioning technology and evaluation methods that can achieve energy saving and low temperature effects (2018-2022)



The Japan Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Industry Association

2. New refrigerant development (for direct expansion ACs) NEDO Project: Search and Evaluation of Low GWP Refrigerants



2. New refrigerant development (for direct expansion ACs)

(Reference) Refrigerants evaluated for thermodynamic properties by NEDO (2018~2022 GWP < 150)

(Reference)	Refrigerants	GWP	
	HFO1336mzz(E)		16
	HCFO1224yd(Z)		1
	HFC32/HFO1123/HFO1234yf	(21.2/59.5/19.3%), etc.	150
	HFO1123		1
	HFO1123/CF3I	(50/50%), etc.	2.5~3.5
	HHC290/HFO1234yf	(50/50%), etc.	1
	HFO1123/HC290	(80/20%)	1
	HFO1123/HC290/HFO1234yf	(48/12/40%), etc.	1
	HFO1234yf/HFO1336mzz(E)	(40/60%)	1
	HFO1234ze(E)/HFO1336mzz(E)	(40/60%)	1

From the Final Report of the Japan Society of Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Engineers

☆HFO1132(E) mixed refrigerant will be evaluated after this year.

Technical problems still remain in terms of performance and the stability of the refrigerant. In order to solve these problems, NEDO will continue to evaluate refrigerants over several years and consider their practical application.

3. Summary

JRAIA's Priorities to achieve CN2050

JRAIA considers the following three points are important to realize CN2050.

1BasicConcept of S+3Es

In order to realize a sustainable carbon-neutral society, a well-balanced approach that considers S+3Es (safety, environmental performance, energy conservation, and economic efficiency) is essential.

2Heat pump technology is indispensable for the realization of carbon neutral 2050.

Heat pump technologies are utilized not only as hot water supply, but also in various fields such as air conditioning and cold chain with refrigeration equipment.

③ Importance and Issues of Direct expansion AC

Direct expansion air conditioning suitable for small and medium-sized buildings is essential for carbon neutrality. However, there are no low GWP natural refrigerants that can be used, and the development of new refrigerants is awaited.

(4) A new low GWP HFO refrigerant is being developed under the framework of NEDO in JAPAN

NEDO is developing refrigerants centered on HFO refrigerants that can be used for direct expansion ACs.
However, many HFO refrigerants are subject to the proposed European PFAS regulations.
In order to prevent the use of direct expansion air conditioning, which is indispensable for carbon neutrality, it is necessary to respond carefully and wisely to regulations.

Thank you for your attention

RAIA The Japan Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Industry Association

© 2023 JRAIA The Japan Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Industry Association. All Rights Reserved.